

Worksession

Agenda Item #	10
Meeting Date	July 25, 2005
Prepared By	Chief Cindy Creamer
Approved By	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

Discussion Item	Crossing Guard - Philadelphia/Cedar Avenue
Background	<p>In March 2005, the Safe Roadways Committee recommended permanent assignment of a crossing guard at Philadelphia Avenue/Old Philadelphia/Cedar Avenue. A count of the number of children crossing at this location was conducted between April 6 and April 18, 2005, confirming that at least 30 children cross at this location each day.</p> <p>On April 18, 2005, Council directed the Police Chief to reassign the seventh crossing guard, who was previously used as a fill-in, to the aforementioned location through the end of the school year (June 2005). The Council agreed to re-visit this matter prior to commencement of the new school year and to consider whether or not to fund an additional crossing guard position.</p> <p>From the time the fill-in crossing guard was reassigned to the Philadelphia Avenue/Old Philadelphia/Cedar Avenue through the end of the school year, the Police Department has had to use police officers and civilian staff to fill posts when the regular guard was absent. This occurred on approximately 30 occasions during the approximate two month period.</p> <p>The City is currently in the process of recruiting for a new crossing guard to replace the late Annie Cotton. If the Council wishes to continue to permanently assign a guard at Philadelphia Avenue/Old Philadelphia/Cedar Avenue, staff recommends that an eighth guard position be authorized in order to apply for appropriate coverage without impacting the workload of patrol and administrative staff.</p>
Policy	The City is committed to ensuring the safety of students traveling to and from school as well as the safety of other pedestrians.
Fiscal Impact	The annual cost of an additional crossing guard is approximately \$16,500.
Attachments	None
Recommendation	Staff recommends that the Council provide direction as to the permanent assignment of a crossing guard at Philadelphia Avenue/Old Philadelphia/Cedar Avenue. If so, staff recommends that the Council authorize the hiring of an additional crossing guard for FY06. If authorized, the FY06 budget would be amended accordingly at a future date.
Special Consideration	A decision should be made prior to the commencement of the new school year so that appropriate staffing arrangements can be made.